

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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WINSTON, N. C.

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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
Winston, N. C.

Winston, N. C., Sept. 29, 1886.

[This paper entered as second class matter at the Post Office in Winston, N. C.]

THE CROSS MARK.

The cross mark on your paper indicates that the time for which you subscribed has or is about to expire. It is to give notice so your subscription may be renewed. If the subscription be not renewed the name will be dropped from the list, but we want every one to renew and bring a friend along too.

See our offer to give THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER one year and the Patch Corn Shelter for four dollars. This is the best shelter for the money in America. It is guaranteed and will give entire satisfaction. Send in your orders at once.

Read our advertisements. And you will do us a great favor when you speak or write of them, to mention THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

—Hon. Thomas Ruffin is dangerously ill at his home in Hillsboro.

—The Order of Odd Fellows in the United States now numbers 517,310 members.

—The Government pays pensions to 365,783 persons. The amount paid the past year was \$63,797,831.

—During the fiscal year ending 30th of June last there were taken up 20,991 acres of public lands.

—In consequence of the labor strikes in the mills in Augusta, Ga., one-third of the laboring people are idle.

—Mr. R. Z. Linney, independent candidate for Congress in the 8th district, has withdrawn from the contest.

—Col. T. M. Holt has threshed out this season 220 bushels of clover seed on his farm at Linwood, Davidson county.

—The population of the earth is estimated at 1,450,000,000, about three-fifths of whom are in a savage or semi-savage condition.

—The President has returned to Washington much improved by his vacation in the Adirondacks where he spent his time hunting and fishing.

—The Republican Convention which met in Raleigh last Wednesday nominated W. P. Bynum for Chief Justice, and John W. Albertson and J. P. Buxton for Associate Justices.

—Government engineers have inspected six hundred out of the seven thousand buildings in Charleston, and estimated the damage done to them by the earthquake at \$2,000,000.

—The Charlotte Observer says that Maj. Jas. G. Harris has lost this season six hundred pure-blood Wyandotte and Plymouth Rock chickens, from cholera, on his poultry farm near Charlotte.

—We are indebted to Mr. J. J. Gormley, Secretary, for a premium list of the Carolina Fair Association, for the fair to take place at Charlotte November 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. The list is a liberal one.

—During the war between the States there were enlisted in the Federal Army 2,772,408, of whom 304,369 died. Of these 95,000 were killed in battle or died of wounds received, and 209,000 from disease.

—Louis Bagger & Co., solicitors of patents, Washington, write us that there were issued to citizens of Southern States 34 patents bearing date of September 21st, one of them to E. P. Tuske, at Whitakers, N. C., for a device for adjusting blind slats.

—Prof. McGee, of the Geological Survey, says the earth under Charleston is "more solidified, more settled and firm" by reason of the late earthquakes than it ever was before. But how does Prof. McGee know that?

—An error crept into the article of Mr. P. H. Hanes on "clover and how to manage it," which appeared in our issue last week. Instead of one peck of clover seed and one peck of orchard grass per acre, it should read one peck of clover seed and one to one and a half bushels of orchard grass seed.

—Notes from Enderly, which appear from time to time in our paper, are from the pen of one of the best, most progressive and most intelligent farmers in the State. He studies, thinks, investigates. His article, "Cattle on the Farm," in last week's paper was admirable and should be read and studied by every farmer in the State.

—The following is the ticket for Davie county nominated by the Democratic Convention, in Mocksville on 18th inst.: For the Legislature, H. E. Robertson; Sheriff, S. J. Tatum; Register, J. A. Sheek; Treasurer, A. Anderson; Superior Court Clerk, J. R. Williams, Sr.; Surveyor, M. C. Ijams; Coroner, A. Henly.

—The Republican Convention which met in Raleigh on 15th inst. recommended the following names for Superior Court Judges: 3rd district, B. F. Bullock; 4th district, T. P. Devereux; 6th district, D. M. Furches; 8th district, W. S. O'B. Robinson; 9th district, A. E. Holton; 10th district, — Marsh; 12th district, P. A. Cumming.

—It may be some comfort to those whom the cyclonic, earthquake and other disastrous predictions of Wiggins, the Canadian weather prophet, have alarmed to know that Prof. McGee, of the Geological Survey, pronounces Mr. Wiggins a humbug, whose forecasts are unworthy of notice. Wiggins prophesied a terrible earthquake shake up along the Atlantic coast on the 29th inst.

THE STATE FAIR.

We are gratified to learn that the prospects for a large and successful State Fair, this year, are so promising. Piedmont Carolina should be well represented in stock, farm products, fruits, machinery and in our enterprising men and noble women. Every man who is interested in the pursuits of agriculture should "strain a point" if necessary, to spend a few days at the Fair. It will pay him. And wherever it is practicable, he should take his boys and girls with him.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

It is not generally known that the originator and founder of this order is a native of North Carolina —Mr. Upchurch, of Franklin county. He is a relative of an extensive family, living in and around Raleigh, and went to Pennsylvania several years ago. Last year the Knights of California invited him to visit that State, and on his arrival at San Francisco he was given a royal reception and was greeted as "Father Upchurch."

The eleventh general assembly of this order will convene in Richmond, Va., on next Monday. It is said that fully 1,200 delegates will be present, representing a membership of nearly one and a half millions. Gov. Lee will deliver an address of welcome to the State, and will be responded to by Grand Master Workman Rowderly. Extensive preparations are being made for the entertainment of the Assembly. The sessions will be secret. All the trades and callings throughout the whole country, whose followers are eligible to membership, will be represented.

The rapid and wonderful growth of this now powerful organization may be seen when it is remembered that the first General Assembly, held in Reading, Pa., on the 1st of January, 1878, did not have twenty delegates. The first sessions held only occupied three or four days, but it is thought that the Richmond Convention will last twelve or fifteen days.

The action of this body will be regarded with profound interest by all reflecting men.

THE FARMERS' ADDRESS.

On the first page of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, this week, we publish the address to the farmers of the State, issued by the Committee appointed by the Farmers of this county, assembled in Convention in Winston on the 7th of August. It is unnecessary for us to do more here than to briefly allude to the address, for it speaks for itself and for those in whose interest it is issued in clear and unmistakable language. The county club of this county, at whose instance it was issued, with representatives from the various township clubs in the county, is composed of the most progressive and substantial farmers in this section of the State and the men whose names are signed to this address stand in the front rank of these. They are no impracticable visionaries, but thinking, working men, whose vocation since boyhood has been on the farm, and their purpose is an honest effort to better the condition of the farmers of the State by arousing them from an apparent torpor to a true realization of their condition, and the way of escape from at least some of the burdens from which they have suffered so long, and from which as a class they still suffer. There is no effort made in this address to indulge in extravagant language nor in exaggerated comment. It gives facts and figures, suggestive, eloquent figures, and cold, unvarnished facts which to the reflecting mind carry their own comment, as forcible as any language however highly colored could make it. Is it not time that the farmers of North Carolina were waking from lethargy and doing something to better their condition, something to lighten the burdens that have bent them to the earth, something to release them from the thralldom in which they have moved and make farm life more profitable, better and happier? Read this address, these ringing words of your brother farmers of Forsyth county, and see if you do not think so, if you have not thought so before. You suffer from the manifold evils alluded to and others that are not alluded to but might have been; in your hands is the remedy and in yours only. If you would better your condition, you must act and act in concert. Remember that "In Union there is Strength."

X CONVICT LABOR.

The question of convict labor is attracting much attention in the State at this time, and will attract more by the time the next Legislature assembles. At the Prohibition County Convention which met in Greensboro recently, opposition to the employment of convict labor in competition with the labor of the working men of the State was made one of the planks in the platform adopted. Under no circumstances should the State hire out its convicts to take the bread out of the mouths of the honest toilers of the State, and the State which does it commits a gross wrong for which there is neither defense nor palliation. This has not been done to a very great extent in our State, but it has been done to a greater extent than it should have been done, and many of our industrious and deserving mechanics have been made sufferers thereby. We have taken the position in this journal, and we still hold it, that the only proper place for the employment of the State's convicts is on the country roads and in draining the swamps which may be reclaimable and thus become of value to the State. But first on the country roads which, with very few exceptions, if any, are in a shabby condition in every county in the State, save in those comparatively few localities where the formation is such as affords naturally good roads, with little work, as in the sandy regions of the east, where there is little mud and little washing by the rains.

But after you leave the sand planes and reach the clay and rock, there is not a county in the State where the roads for a good portion of the year, and the portion, too, when they are most needed for traffic, are not a disgrace to the county and the State. They are not only a disgrace, but they cause a loss of millions of dollars annually to the farmers and people in the towns and cities who deal with them; loss in time consumed in taking several days to make journeys which could be made over good roads in one day, in the wear and tear of

stock forced to draw heavy loads over them, in the wear and tear of vehicles, and in the depreciation of property which would enhance in value with good roads affording quick and easy access to market. Since the penitentiary was established the policy pursued has been to give the labor of these convicts to railroad companies for the construction of railroads and thus much of the railroad grading done in the State during the past fifteen years has been done. That this has benefited the State in aiding in the construction of new roads, and the development of her resources we will not deny, but we believe that the State and the people will be more benefitted in the future by a good country road system than by an increase in the number of railroads, and the railroads now in operation and those to be built will be benefitted too by increased production on the farms and increased freight.

Years ago perhaps the building of railroads in this State was dependent upon the employment of convict labor, but this is no longer so, for in these days of railroad enterprise and competition, when capital is seeking investment railroads will be built where they will pay. The railroad systems of the country are rapidly passing into the hands of syndicates with ample means to build such roads as their necessities demand and judgment approves.

The policy of the State and the counties should now be good country roads, continuous from county to county, connecting the remote counties with the nearest railroad centres and best markets. If a system of this kind be adopted and persistently carried out with the number of convicts that can be thus employed it will not be many years before North Carolina will have roads to compare with those of any State, and worth millions to her people.

A FARMERS' MASS MEETING.

Everybody Invited.

Oak Ridge Institute will present an interesting scene on Saturday the 2nd of October, if the committee in charge carry out their programme.

The editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is indebted to the kindness of the committee, for the honor of an invitation to be present, and others are also invited to deliver addresses.

Farmers with their families, and young men with their sweethearts, are invited to come and bring along their lunch baskets.

A large crowd, a good dinner and a most enjoyable time, generally, is what will please the committee and the good people of that vicinity.

The character of the gentlemen composing the committee is a guarantee that nothing will be left undone which will contribute to the pleasure of the occasion. Messrs. J. A. Lowery, R. A. Blaylock, James Browning, W. O. Donnell and W. E. Benbow constitute the Committee of Arrangements.

Speaking will begin at 11 o'clock a. m. sharp.

A WORD ABOUT OUR PAPER.

The readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER well know that it is not given to "blowing its own horn."

It believes that the discerning judgment of an intelligent public will discover and determine whether a paper be properly conducted and is meritorious and worthy, and upon that decision will rest its success or failure.

For the information of its friends, however, throughout the State, THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER desires to say, that notwithstanding the almost unprecedented stringency in monetary affairs and the general despondency among the farmers since the day it was first issued (about eight months ago), it has received a support and patronage beyond its expectations, and with which it is not only content, but highly gratified and encouraged. It refers, with pardonable pride, we trust, to its advertising columns as to the character of patronage it receives. Our patrons in this department spend their money with us—not for mere show, but purely on business principles—because they believe and feel that they get a full and honest equivalent for it. Indeed we have been highly gratified at the voluntary assurance of a large number of our most liberal advertisers, that they recognize and realize its merit as an advertising medium.

A PARALLEL CASE.

Some kind friend has placed us under obligations for a copy of the *New England Homestead*, published at Springfield, Massachusetts, from which we extract the following:

"Connecticut farmers have taken deeply to heart the injustice done them by the State allowing the \$7,000 income taken from the State Agricultural college fund to go to Yale college instead of to the Agricultural school at Mansfield, where it properly belongs. It is probable that they will demand of the Legislature this winter that a portion or the whole of this income be turned over to the agricultural school. The very strong grange organization can right this wrong if it sets out to. The issue is certainly a live one which the leading farmers organizations may well tackle in earnest."

What a striking parallel this furnishes in the case of the Connecticut farmers and the North Carolina farmers. Substitute North Carolina for Connecticut and \$7,500 for \$7,000 and you have the case of the North Carolina farmers to a dot.

The farmers of Connecticut propose to right that wrong; the farmers of North Carolina also propose to right that wrong, and what is more they do not propose to rest until that wrong is righted. Connecticut secured but a little over half the lands that North Carolina did, but these lands were honestly disposed of and the result is that the annual interest amounts to within \$500 of what the interest on North Carolina's appropriation, though much larger, does. Bad management and dishonesty combined frittered away at least one half the original gift. As far as the farmers of the State are concerned, the interest arising from what the State afterwards assumed, \$7,500 a year, has been squandered, for it has been appropriated to an object and in a way from which they, for whose benefit the lands were donated, have not derived a particle of benefit. They have stood this thing, this palpable and gross injustice, since 1868 and have been silent, silent not because they did not understand the situation and comprehend the extent of the injustice done them, but because they thought that time would right the wrong. They have waited long and patiently and find that they must move themselves if they would find justice. They have begun to move and propose to keep moving until the wrong is righted and justice done.

In this connection we may state that we have been requested to republish our editorial on University Appropriations, which appeared in our issue of August 25. We do not wish to do this, but for the benefit of enquirers we will state that the University has an annual appropriation of \$20,000, besides the interest on the land scrip fund amounting to \$7,500, which belongs to the farmers of the State and which it uses annually, making \$27,500 not counting funds arising from other sources, the exact amount of which we do not know, because we have not the means of ascertaining it definitely. With the appropriation by the State we have nothing to do, because that comes fairly and honestly, but against the use of the \$7,500 belonging to the farmers we solemnly protest and shall continue to protest until that misappropriation ceases and that money is applied as it was intended it should be applied by the donors.

TO THE STATE PRESS.

The attention of the State Press is respectfully called to the Address to the Farmers of North Carolina, issued by the Farmers' County Club of Forsyth county, which appears on the first page of this paper. By resolution of the Farmers' Convention the papers of the State were respectfully solicited to publish this address, a request which we feel sure they will cheerfully comply with, as a matter of interest to their farmer readers throughout the State. The County Club will regard it as a favor if the papers publishing the address will send a copy to the Secretary, E. C. Dull, Post office address, Lewinville, Forsyth County, N. C.

—The brick work on the new Sidney Cotton Mill, near the depot, is done and the roof is on. It is a handsome two-story building. Five cottages have also been erected.—*Alamance Gleaner*.